

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process for the continuous production of a composition comprising rubber (20), a hydrocarbon resin (22) and a solvent (26) through the use of at least two two-screw extruders (10a, 10b) placed in series producing an adhesive composition, comprising the following steps:
providing first and second two-screw extruders in series with one another, the first extruder being located upstream of the second extruder;
supplying rubber, a hydrocarbon resin and a solvent to the first extruder such that the rubber and hydrocarbon resin are dissolved in the solvent; and
controlling the temperature of the extruders such that the temperature at the outlet of each of the extruders is less than the boiling point of the solvent.
2. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~wherein providing for addition of the said solvent (26) is added~~ is added at at least one point downstream from ~~the~~ an initial section of the first extruder (10a).
3. (canceled).
4. (currently amended): Production process according to claim ~~13~~, ~~in which the~~ wherein said solvent ~~(26)~~ is added in a fractionated way at a plurality of points downstream from the initial section of the first extruder ~~(10a)~~ and at a plurality of points located along the second extruder ~~(10b)~~.
5. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein a fraction of said solvent (26) is added to the composition leaving the first extruder ~~(10a)~~ before it is placed in the second extruder ~~(10b)~~.

6. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the said rubber-(20) is added in ~~the~~an initial section of the first extruder-(10a).

7. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the said resin (22)-is added in ~~the~~an initial section of the first extruder-(10a).

8. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein a fraction of the said resin (22)-is added to an~~the~~ initial section of the first extruder (10a)-and the remaining fraction is added at a point downstream from the initial section of the first extruder-(10a).

9. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the rotation speed of the screws of the first extruder (10a) lies between 20 and 300 rpm, while the rotation speed of the screws of the second extruder (10b) lies between 60 and 600 rpm.

10. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein ~~the~~ said rubber (20)-is selected from the group comprising natural rubbers, synthetic rubbers and ~~their~~ mixtures thereof.

11. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein ~~the~~ said hydrocarbon resin (22)-has adhesion-imparting properties.

12. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the said solvent (26)-is selected from the group ~~comprising~~consisting of pentane, hexane, heptane, dichloropropane and ~~their mixtures~~mixtures thereof.

13. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein ~~the~~ said at least two two-screw extruders (10a, 10b)-are of the co-rotating type.

14. (currently amended): Production process according to any one of the preceding claims, ~~in which~~wherein at least one of ~~the~~-said at least two two-screw extruders ~~(10a, 10b)~~-has a ratio between the outer diameter and the inner diameter of the screws lying between 1.4 and 2.0 and preferably between 1.55 and 1.8.

15. (currently amended): Production process according to claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the temperature of the composition within the second extruder ~~(10b)~~ is less than the temperature of the composition in the first extruder ~~(10a)~~.